



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

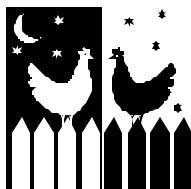
WEDNESDAY
MAY 02, 2001
VOL. 48 NO. 53

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was firm in the West, mostly steady to fully steady elsewhere. Retail demand was light to moderate, instances fairly good where ads were effective. Food service was fair to good, best for fast food promotions. Supplies of smaller sizes were adequate to tight, and heavier weights were at least sufficient and readily available. In the parts structure, trading was fair to good. Breast items were no more than adequate, tight for bone-in breasts. The remaining items were close balanced to well cleared, except for wings which were more available but adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable to heavy.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading advanced .25 cent to 62.50 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 57.25 cents last year on the 3rd of May, 2000.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

| ITEM | DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| LINE RUN TENDERS | 208.00 |
| BREASTS - B/S | 140.50 |
| BREASTS - WHOLE | 74.50 |
| THIGH MEAT - B/S | 97.50 |
| LEG QUARTERS | 29.00 |
| WINGS | 103.50 |

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

| 15 STATES | PERCENT CHANGE | | |
|----------------------|----------------|---------|---------------|
| WEEK ENDING 04/28/01 | 2001 | 2000 | PREVIOUS YEAR |
| EGGS SET | 183,741 | 186,476 | -01 |
| CHICKS PLACED | 149,245 | 151,362 | -01 |

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES DOWN 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 184 million eggs in incubators during the week ending April 28, 2001. This was down 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 149 million chicks for meat production during the week ending April 28, 2001. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week in 2000. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through April 28, 2001 were 2.48 billion, down slightly from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 09-Jun-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 153.3 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 153.3 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 156.4 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 145.3 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 56.13 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN The market tone was firm. Offerings in close balance on light weights and fully adequate on heavy weights. Demand was moderate to good, best to cover features. Floor stocks adequate. Trade sentiment fully steady on dark meat with balance of parts generally steady.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was fair to moderate, best where features were active. Food service was better, especially into fast food channels as warmer spring-type weather materializes. Supplies were usually in good balance with smaller sizes often in closer balance. In the parts structure, breast items were well cleared to tight and held with confidence, dark meat continued to show good movement due to export interest, and wings were sufficient, and even though more available, still moving well. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were desirable to heavy, mostly desirable.

MIDWEST Trade sentiment on whole fryers was steady to instances fully steady. Additional offers of whole birds and Wogs were adequate for buyer's current needs. Retail demand was light to fairly good with food service moderate to good, best for features and promotions. Floor stocks were adequate with weights desirable to instances heavy. Trading on parts items was mixed. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs with whole breasts barely adequate. The market tone was steady to firm on breast items, fully steady on dark meat items and unsettled on wings.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was about fair during midweek trading. Offerings of the 2.5 to 3 pound sizes varied in availability, but were usually sufficient overall. The larger birds were readily available. Movement through retail and distributive channels was light. The market tone was mostly steady to fully steady on the smaller birds, about steady on the heavier weights. In the parts complex, boneless-skinless breasts ranged balanced to adequate, and bone-in breasts were no more than adequate to instances tight. Dark meat cuts continued to clear well, and wings were generally sufficient.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light to fair at best and typical of mid-week activity. Seller offerings again varied by both size and volume but were generally noted as fully sufficient. Live supplies were moderate; weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 53 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, with the exception of wings which had increased in availability to a limited buying interest, supplies were generally noted as in good balance to closely cleared.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| RANGE | 50-69 |
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE | 56.18 |
| NO. OF BOXES | 11,744 |
| *7 of 8 plants reporting. | |

MAY 01, 2001

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAY 02, 2001

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

| ITEM | POUNDS (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD AVG |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|------------|
| BREAST - B/S | 752 | 120.00-205.00 | 136-140 | 139.54 |
| TENDERLOINS | 160 | 145.00-230.00 | 145-150 | 159.22 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 293 | 70.00-75.00 | 72-73 | 72.01 |
| FRONT HALVES | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| LEGS | 127 | 40.00-46.00 | 40-42 | 40.96 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 319 | 25.00-27.50 | 25-27 | 25.81 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,616 | 27.00-30.00 | 28-29 | 28.37 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 300 | 99.00-102.50 | 100-101 | 101.93 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 543 | 111.00-125.00 | 115-118 | 117.41 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| B/S THIGHS | 46 | 93.00-96.50 | - | 95.74 |

| ITEM | POUNDS (000) | RANGE | MAJORITY | WTD AVG |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|------------|
| BREAST - B/S | 847 | 120.00-205.00 | 135-140 | 137.91 |
| TENDERLOINS | 198 | 145.00-230.00 | 145-150 | 153.59 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 113 | 71.00-75.00 | 72-74 | 71.55 |
| FRONT HALVES | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| LEGS | 107 | 40.00-46.00 | 40-42 | 41.14 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 319 | 24.50-27.50 | 25-26 | 25.49 |
| LEG QUARTERS (4/10) | 1,656 | 27.00-30.00 | 28-29 | 28.36 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 300 | 102.00-104.00 | - | 102.60 |
| WINGS (CUT) | 700 | 110.00-126.00 | 115-118 | 118.26 |
| DRUMSTICKS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| THIGHS | TOO FEW TO REPORT | | | |
| B/S THIGHS | 46 | 92.00-96.50 | - | 95.52 |

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

| RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | RANGE | TODAY'S AVERAGE | 5-DAY AVERAGE |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 48.00 - 53.25 | 50.41 | 47.75 - 53.25 | 50.25 | 50.04 |

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying interest was mostly fair and generally noted as typical of midweek trading activity. Supplies of boneless-skinless breasts were well balanced and bone-in breasts ranged no more than adequate to instances tight. Wings and dark meat cuts continued to clear well. Retail and distributive movement was about fair, with best interest centering around scattered features. The market tone was fully steady on boneless-skinless breasts, fully steady to instances firm on bone-in breasts, steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

MAY 01, 2001

MAY 02, 2001

| ITEM | CURRENT NEG TRADING* | WTD AVG** | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------|
| BREAST - B/S | 130-135 | 134.57 | 685,120 |
| TENDERLOINS | 135-140 | 143.39 | 161,970 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 68-69 | 73.70 | 354,400 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 68 | 72.06 | 153,000 |
| LEGS | 38-39 | 42.32 | 290,840 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 28-29 | 29.25 | 779,499 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 34-35 | 41.14 | 148,510 |
| THIGHS | 35-36 | 40.58 | 117,760 |
| B/S THIGHS | 88-89 | 87.76 | 96,370 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 100-101 | 109.42 | 408,620 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 12.07 | 72,960 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 30-35 | 34.49 | 65,685 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 40-45 | 44.19 | 104,000 |

| ITEM | CURRENT NEG TRADING* | WTD AVG** | VOL/LBS |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------|
| BREAST - B/S | 135 | 135.97 | 576,350 |
| TENDERLOINS | 135-140 | 141.51 | 94,660 |
| BREAST - WITH RIBS | 69-70 | 74.76 | 366,680 |
| BREAST - LINE RUN | 69 | 72.10 | 169,200 |
| LEGS | 38-39 | 41.53 | 276,700 |
| LEG QUARTERS (BULK) | 28-29 | 29.41 | 868,002 |
| DRUMSTICKS | 34-35 | 41.45 | 158,920 |
| THIGHS | 35-36 | 40.28 | 150,080 |
| B/S THIGHS | 88-89 | 91.63 | 48,320 |
| WINGS (WHOLE) | 100-101 | 109.93 | 412,160 |
| BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED) | 10-12 | 12.02 | 86,000 |
| LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS) | 30-35 | 35.28 | 68,560 |
| GIZZARDS (HEARTS) | 40-45 | 44.40 | 103,640 |

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

| | ESTIMATED | ACTUAL | AVG WTS | ACTUAL | AVG WTS |
|---|-----------|--------|------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 05/02 05/01 04/30 04/27 04/30 04/25 04/23 | | | | | |
| ALA | 3,869 | 3,988 | 3,854 | 3,945 | 5.15 4.86 3,886 5.11 |
| ARK | 5,070 | 5,316 | 5,141 | 5,129 | 5.03 4.67 4,783 4.97 |
| DELMARVA | 2,346 | 2,358 | 2,337 | 2,637 | 5.08 5.03 2,320 5.14 |
| KY-LA-TN | 1,876 | 2,015 | 1,855 | 2,138 | 4.68 4.54 1,821 4.63 |
| MISS | 2,754 | 2,729 | 2,589 | 3,099 | 5.20 5.13 2,730 5.06 |
| NC | 2,610 | 2,642 | 2,616 | 2,669 | 6.10 5.85 2,494 6.00 |
| TEXAS | 2,326 | 2,334 | 2,333 | 2,344 | 4.99 4.79 2,290 4.92 |
| TOTAL | 20,851 | 21,382 | 20,725 | 21,961 | 5.18 4.96 20,324 5.11 |
| MON-WED63,255 (A) | | | | | 61,923(A) |

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 02-May 01 and is estimated to be 31,195,000 up 0.07 percent from a week ago and up 2.9 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 30,313,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

| | RANGE |
|------------------|-------|
| FRESH FRYERS | 83-85 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | 71-90 |
| HENS UNDER 5# | - |
| HENS OVER 5# | 81 |
| DUCKS | 139 |
| RABBITS-WHOLE | - |
| RABBITS-CUT UP | - |

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

| FRESH FRYERS | ICE PACK | 89-94 |
|------------------|----------|---------|
| | DRY PACK | 102 |
| ROASTERS 4# & UP | ICE PACK | 104-117 |
| | DRY PACK | 123 |
| HENS OVER 5# | ICE PACK | 91-117 |
| | DRY PACK | 123 |
| DUCKS | | 152-170 |

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 05-01

| | CURRENT WEEK 05/05/01 (1) | PREVIOUS WEEK 04/28/01 |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CLASS | THOUSAND HEAD | |
| BRO-FRY | 162,313 (2) | 155,660 |
| LT HENS | 1,812 | 1,914 |
| HVY HENS | 1,548 | 1,481 |
| CHECK TOTAL | 165,673 | 159,055 |

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 05-May-01 is 158.5 million head compared to 158.1 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 162.6 million head or 4.1 million more than estimated available. For week of 12-May-01 the estimated available is 159.1 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEY | | PROCESSED POULTRY | |
|--------------|------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| | LBS | | LBS | |
| AM 30-Apr-01 | 141,994 | | 63,118 | |
| AM 1-Apr-01 | 116,507 | | 62,425 | |
| CHG | 25,487 | | 693 | |
| PCT CHG | 22 | | 1 | |

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

| | PROCESSED TURKEYS | | | PROCESSED POULTRY | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| | 04/30/01 | 04/23/01 | 05/01/00 | 04/30/01 | 04/23/01 | 04/01/00 |
| PACIFIC | | | | | | |
| COAST | 20,280 | 19,128 | 15,586 | 5,281 | 4,081 | 14,774 |
| LOS ANGELES | 827 | 642 | 179 | 2,636 | 2,717 | 5,315 |

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 05/01/01

| | LOW | HIGH | AVG | | LOW | HIGH | AVG |
|------------------|------|------|------|----------------|-------|-------|-----|
| HEAVY FOWL lb. | 1.10 | 1.20 | 1.15 | HEAVY FOWL ea. | 3.75 | 5.00 | - |
| LIGHT FOWL lb. | - | - | - | LIGHT FOWL ea. | - | - | - |
| MIXED FOWL lb. | - | 1.55 | - | MIXED FOWL ea. | - | 8.50 | - |
| BANTAMS lb. | - | 1.95 | - | BANTAMS ea. | 3.50 | 4.75 | - |
| BROILERS lb. | - | 2.15 | - | BROILERS ea. | - | 4.50 | - |
| ROASTERS lb. | - | - | - | ROASTERS ea. | - | - | - |
| FRYERS lb. | - | - | - | FRYERS ea. | - | - | - |
| CHICKS lb. | - | - | - | CHICKS ea. | .30 | 1.30 | - |
| PULLETS lb. | 1.75 | 1.95 | 1.86 | PULLETS ea. | 6.50 | 7.00 | - |
| BUNNIES lb. | - | - | - | BUNNIES ea. | - | 1.75 | - |
| ROOSTERS lb. | 1.40 | 1.90 | 1.58 | ROOSTERS ea. | 4.50 | 10.50 | - |
| GEESE lb. | - | - | - | GEESE ea. | - | 7.50 | - |
| TURKEYS lb. | .40 | .60 | .50 | TURKEYS ea. | - | 16.00 | - |
| DUCKS lb. | .95 | 1.70 | 1.47 | DUCKS ea. | - | 8.00 | - |
| RABBITS lb. | 1.70 | 2.00 | 1.84 | RABBITS ea. | - | - | - |
| PIGEONS lb. | - | - | - | PIGEONS ea. | 4.00 | 7.50 | - |
| GUINEA FOWL lb. | - | - | - | GUINEA FOWL ea | 10.50 | 15.50 | - |
| DUCKLINGS lb. | - | - | - | DUCKLINGS ea. | - | - | - |
| GUINEA KEETS ea. | - | - | - | CALL DUCKS ea. | - | - | - |
| SILKIES ea. | 2.00 | 4.75 | - | GOSLINGS ea. | - | 5.75 | - |
| GUINEA PIGS ea. | - | - | - | | | | |

TOTAL COOPS 115

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF APRIL 30, 2001

| | RANGE |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX) | 56-60 |
| VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX) | 57-67 |

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

Cents per pound for the week ending April 27, 2001

| | Whole Chickens | Breasts | Legs w/ Thighs | Necks,Backs & Wings | Livers/ Gizzards | Hens |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| RAYON | | | | | | |
| Low | 70.28 | 146.42 | 82.97 | 19.52 | 2.44 | 56.13 |
| High | 72.14 | 165.95 | 92.74 | 29.28 | 2.93 | 58.57 |
| Mostly | 70.87 | 156.19 | 82.97 | 24.40 | 2.93 | 58.57 |
| SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 64.43 | 156.19 | 107.38 | 34.17 | 3.42 | 48.32 |
| High | 66.38 | 170.83 | 122.02 | 43.93 | 5.86 | 53.69 |
| Mostly | 65.89 | 161.07 | 117.14 | 36.61 | 4.88 | 53.69 |
| NEW SAN JUAN | | | | | | |
| Low | 70.28 | 146.42 | 78.09 | 19.52 | 2.44 | 56.13 |
| High | 72.24 | 165.95 | 92.74 | 29.28 | 2.93 | 58.57 |
| Mostly | 71.26 | 156.19 | 82.97 | 24.40 | 2.93 | 56.13 |
| BECERRA | | | | | | |
| Low | 63.45 | 151.30 | 97.62 | 29.28 | 2.93 | 48.32 |
| High | 66.38 | 170.83 | 126.90 | 43.93 | 7.32 | 54.66 |
| Mostly | 65.89 | 156.19 | 112.26 | 36.61 | 4.88 | 51.25 |

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS.**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

| | | | |
|----------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Washington, DC | Voice | (202)720-6911 | Grover T. Hunter |
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| Atlanta, GA | Voice | (404)562-5850 | Johnny Freeman |
| | Fax | (404)562-5875 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (404)562-5856 | |
| Jackson, MS | Voice | (601)965-4662 | Gary Brown |
| | Fax | (601)965-4661 | (Southern States Area Supervisor) |
| Des Moines, IA | Voice | (515)284-4471 | Mary L. Adkins |
| | Fax | (515)284-4468 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (515)284-4545 | |
| Bell, CA | Voice | (323)269-4154 | Jim Derby |
| | Fax | (323)269-5926 | (Officer-In-Charge) |
| | Recorded | (323)260-4676 | |